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February 27, 2016

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**Outage Update** Service was restored for nearly all households early yesterday afternoon. My thanks to our Department of Public Works which worked long hours to clear downed trees and coordinate with the line crews for NYSEG to ensure safety of our residents and expedite restoration of power. Most important thanks to the community for your patience throughout the outage and for letting us know problems so we could act upon them.

**The Town's 2015 Annual Report has been issued!** [Click here](#) to read about developments over the course of the year.

**For Supervisor Chris Burdick's [January 31](#) report, [click here](#).**

**League of Women Voters Forum (LWV.BLNS)** The candidates running for the vacant Bedford Town Board seat are set to participate in a League of Women Voters forum on Tuesday, March 1. The League of Women Voters of Bedford-Lewisboro-North Salem is holding the event in the Town House Courtroom at 321 Bedford Road, Bedford Hills. The forum begins promptly at 7 pm to accommodate the Town Board meeting that begins at 8:00. Candidates MaryAnn Carr and Luke Vander Linden will take questions from a League moderator; Ms. Carr and Mr. Vander Linden are running for the seat that was held by Francis Corcoran prior to his election to the county legislature. The special election is March 15. The forum on March 1 is free and open to the public. It will be available for viewing on the Town of Bedford's website, [www.bedfordny.gov](http://www.bedfordny.gov). It will also be shown on Optimum channel 18 and Verizon FiOS channel 1982 during the run-up to the election. For more information, contact the League of Women Voters of Bedford-Lewisboro-North Salem at [lwv.blns@gmail.com](mailto:lwv.blns@gmail.com) or visit their website at <https://sites.google.com/site/lwvblns/>.

### **Special Town Board Election - Tuesday, March 15, 2015**

The Town Board has set for this date a Special Town Board election to fill the unexpired term of former Town Board member Francis Corcoran whose seat became vacant upon his taking office as Westchester County Legislator following his election in November. The individual elected will serve out the balance of Francis' term of office which ends on December 31, 2017.

**For the March 1st Town Board Agenda, [click here](#)**

- **Proposed Agreement with White Collar Unit** The Town Board will be considering a Memorandum of Agreement between the Town and Teamsters Local 456, White Collar Unit (office workers). It covers the period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018. In my view, the agreement is fair, equitable and fiscally responsible, allowing the Town to stay within budgetary constraints. I have recommended to the Town Board that the agreement be approved. [click here](#) to read the proposed agreement.
- **Policy on Health Insurance**  
for Newly Elected Part-Time Elected Officials  
The Town's former Comptroller, Ed Ritter, had recommended to the Town Board adoption of a cost savings policy to no longer offer health insurance benefits for newly elected or appointed part-time Town Board members and Town Justices. Presently part-time elected officials may participate in the Town's health plan by paying 20% of the premium (the annual premium for a family plan is about \$22,000) with the Town paying the balance. The Board first discussed the policy at its February 16 meeting and decided to hold over action on it. The Board will consider it further at the March 1 meeting.
- **Stepping Stones Foundation Application for Renewal of Special Permit** The Foundation has submitted to the Town Board an application for renewal of its special permit to operate Stepping Stones. Under the Town's special permit law, the Town Board must set a public hearing. The Town Board issued the permit in March 2015 and it expires in early March of this year. One of the permit conditions is that the applicant apply to the Town Board should it wish to renew the permit.

**Draft Survey and Classification of Historic Buildings - Public Information Sessions**

The Historic Building Preservation Commission held its first two public information session on February 18 at the Bedford Hills Community House and on February 25 at Historic Hall in Bedford Village. The purpose of each session was for the Commission to present and hear from the public regarding: 1) the draft Survey of Historic Buildings, and 2) a proposed classification system for historic properties with procedures to streamline the application process for demolition or significant alterations to Historic Buildings. The public is encouraged to attend the third session at the Katonah Village Library on March 3 from 7:00-9:00pm. [Click here](#) for more information

**Mandate Relief Roundtable in New Castle**

- Thursday, March 3

. The Town of Bedford is reviewing the financial and operational impact of unfunded mandates. Our review is modeled in part on the work of the New Castle Mandate Relief Committee. For those not attending the Bedford Town Board meeting (you can watch it

later on TV), you may be interested in a roundtable discussion New Castle is hosting on Thursday. The panel launching the discussion will be led by EJ McMahon, and includes representatives for New York State Senator Terrance Murphy and New York State Assemblyman David Buchwald, Chappaqua Central School District Board of Education President Warren Messner, New Castle Town Supervisor Robert Greenstein and New Castle Comptroller Robert Deary. Edmund J. ("EJ") McMahon is president of the Empire Center for Public Policy and has worked to improve New York's economic competitiveness and promote greater transparency, accountability and fiscal responsibility in state and local government. [Click here](#) for more information.

### **Septic System Repair and Replacement Program: By the Numbers....**

As you may have heard, the Town received funds from Westchester County for a \$3.5 million Septic System Repair and Replacement program to deal with failing septic systems. The program allows Bedford property owners in the Croton Watershed (about 85% of the Town's land area) for a 50% reimbursement of repair/replacement costs. Under the program, which started the first week of October 2015, the Town has approved 10 applications representing \$68,000 in repairs and disbursed \$34,000 in reimbursements in homeowners. If you have a failing septic system, contact the Planning Department at 666-4434 for further information or visit our [website](#).

**AARP Tax Help** Katonah Village Library, 10:00am - 3:00pm, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is the nation's largest. The AARP tax assistance will be here one day a week (Tuesdays), from February 2 through April 12. Please bring your last year's records and your income documents. No appointments. Please come before 1pm. The library will only have the IRS forms listed below and only the most common NYS tax forms. You can order forms and booklets directly from the Internal Revenue Service and NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance. IRS forms that will be available:

- Form 1040, U.S. Individual Income Tax Return
- Form 1040 A, U.S. Individual Income Tax Return
- Form 1040 EZ, Income Tax Return for Single and Joint Filers with No Dependents
- Instruction for Form 1040 A
- Instruction for Form 1040
- Instruction for Form 1040 EZ

We will also have:

- Publication 17, Your Federal Income Tax For Individuals (one reference copy)
- Publication 1132, Reproducible Copies of Federal Tax Forms and Instructions (one reference copy)

### **Vacancy on Planning Board, Conservation Board and Tree Advisory Board**

The Board is accepting applications for a vacancy on the Planning Board, the Conservation Board and the Tree Advisory Board -

please note that for those who applied in the fall for the Planning and Conservation Board, please simply let me know if you continue to wish to be considered. If you are interested in serving, please e-mail your resume with a cover letter to [supervisor@bedfordny.gov](mailto:supervisor@bedfordny.gov). You also may mail it to me at Supervisor, 321 Bedford Road, Bedford Hills, New York 10507.

### Community Events

For the Community Events Calendar, [click here](#)  
Please let us know of any Bedford events by emailing us at [CommunityCalendar@bedfordny.gov](mailto:CommunityCalendar@bedfordny.gov). Please email any submissions by noon Thursday. The calendar usually runs Saturday through Saturday. Thank you.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that you can get email and/or text reminders to renew your driver license, non-driver identification card, registrations and have your vehicle inspected?

For more information and to sign up go to, <http://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/get-email-andor-text-reminders>

**Winter is here!** Here is some useful information if you need to contact either NYSEG or Con Edison.

Both NYSEG and Con Edison encourage customers with special needs to enroll in special services for them.

"NYSEG is committed to providing their customers with safe, reliable energy delivery. They also offer many services for special need customers, including:

Special Identification for households where everyone is elderly, blind or disabled

Large print, sight-saver Bills for visually-impaired customers

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) grants

NYSEG's Energy Assistance Program (EAP)

Project SHARE emergency energy assistance program

If you or someone in your household relies on life-sustaining equipment, you should contact NYSEG immediately!

#### **How to call NYSEG:**

Electricity interruptions or emergencies: 1.800.572.1131 (24 hours a day, every day)

Customer relations center: 1.800.572.1111

Payment arrangements: 1.888.315.1755

Hearing and speech-impaired: Dial 711 (New York Relay Service)"

#### **Message from Con Edison: Customer Central Special Services Safety for Special Customers:**

It is important that we have a record of everyone who uses electrically operated life-support equipment or has medical hardships so we can contact them in an emergency. To learn more and complete the survey, please visit the link below. You can also let us know by calling 1-800-75-CONED (1-800-752-6633). Con Edison customers can enroll for this service by visiting [www.conEd.com](http://www.conEd.com), clicking on Customer Central, and then the "special services" link. You will need your account number. To keep our records current, each year we send a letter asking you to

recertify.

<http://www.coned.com/customercentral/specialservices.asp>

Customers with Special Needs:

We recognize that senior citizens and people with disabilities need special attention. That's why we offer a variety of services and billing and payment options that make life a little bit easier for the elderly, visually or hearing-impaired, or customers with permanent disabilities. Please visit the link below to view the Customers With Special Needs brochure.

<http://www.coned.com/customercentral/specialservices.asp>

**WNY PRISM** is now accepting applications for our 2016 Seasonal Crew Positions! We have 1 Education and Outreach Assistant and 3 Invasive Species Management Assistant Positions available. The official job postings along with detailed job descriptions and instructions for applying can be found here: <https://www.rfhiring.com/jobs.asp>. Applications should be submitted electronically through this Research Foundation Hiring link. Our Education and Outreach Assistant will work from May - September. The Education and Outreach Assistant will assist with education and outreach events, help maintain the WNY PRISM website, listserv and social media accounts, develop invasive species educational materials, recruit and train volunteers and communicate with Partners. The application deadline is February 29.

Our Invasive Species Management Crew will work from June through August. This position involves invasive species mapping, surveys and assessments, assisting Partners with priority invasive species removal projects, assisting with volunteer, education and outreach efforts and communicating with Partners and the public. The application deadline is March 11.

Please help to distribute this job announcement.

PDF versions of the job descriptions can also be found on the WNY PRISM Website: <http://www.wnyprism.org/about/job-opportunities/>

### **Winter Outreach**

During the winter season, many in Bedford could be faced with the difficulty of managing their energy costs. The New York Office of Department of Public Service has reached out to municipalities to assist in offering suggestions to help manage these costs.

The following brochures can be downloaded:

[Take the Chill Out of Your Winter Energy Bills](#)

[New York Natural Gas Outlook: Winter 2015-2016](#)

[Your Rights & Protections](#)

[Utility Service Interruptions](#)

[Household Electricity Use and Energy Saving Tips](#)

[What You Should Know Before Choosing an Electric or Natural Gas Supplier](#)

It is important that consumers be made aware of options that may be available to them. Please contact the office of the Supervisor, [Supervisor@BedfordNY.gov](mailto:Supervisor@BedfordNY.gov) or 914-666-6530 if you have any

questions or need a hard copy of these publications. These should be available in the next two to three weeks.

**TAKE NOTE AND HELPFUL INFORMATION**  
**Community Organizations Take Note - Town Co-Sponsorship of Community Events**

Community organizations may apply for Town co-sponsorship of community events which require overtime costs. This means that there may be the possibility of the Town Board relieving the organization from a portion of overtime expenses for Town personnel (e.g., police and public works) assisting with the event. Please note that funds are limited and Town co-sponsorship is subject to Town Board approval. The application form and the guidelines which the Board adopted are available from the Clerk's office. The Clerk will review applications as received for completeness and compliance with the guidelines and forward them to the Town Board for action. You can contact the Clerk at 666-4534 or by e-mail at clerk at [townclerk@bedfordny.gov](mailto:townclerk@bedfordny.gov) Or the Supervisor at [supervisor@bedfordny.gov](mailto:supervisor@bedfordny.gov) or call him at 666-6530.

**NIXLE ALERTS** - for up to date notifications (weather, road closures, etc.) [Click here](#) You can register for notifications or enter your zip code to receive local alerts.

**For the Town Calendar, [click here](#)**

*Note to regular readers of the weekly updates. As you've no doubt seen, we repeat entries from previous weeks. We do so because we find that there are many occasional readers or first time readers. Thanks for your patience*

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*The Town of* **BEDFORD** *New York*

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